

# Bryan Daily Eagle

AND PILOT

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## THE EAGLE AND GOVERNOR WILSON.

The Eagle's strictures on Governor Woodrow Wilson for applying for a Carnegie pension have stirred up a hornet's nest among his partisans in Bryan. But we have no apology or explanation to make. The pension graft is one of the worst forms of robbery that afflicts this long suffering country, and much as we esteem Governor Wilson, we can not excuse in him what we condemn in others. His plea that he needed the money is a very lame and impotent excuse. All the pension raiders say that. Governor Wilson is able to work and ought to be ashamed to ask charity of a man who amassed his wealth by means that he professes to condemn. Even if the money were not tainted, he would be without excuse. His plea that he is a poor man sounds very much like a whine. While there are, perhaps, thousands richer there are millions poorer than he. It is a plain

case of trying to get something for nothing.

The assumption that Governor Harmon is the only alternative to Wilson is not well taken. The democratic party is rich in presidential timber. So far as the record shows, there is nothing the matter with Governor Foss, who has twice carried Massachusetts, the hotbed of protection, on the tariff issue; or with Governor Marshall of Indiana, the democratic Abe Lincoln; and last but not least, with our own Senator Culberson.

Col. Henry M. Watterson, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, is a democrat of democrats. His father, Col. Harvey M. Watterson, of McMinnville, Tenn., was a democrat and a personal friend of James Buchanan the last democratic president before the war. The Wattersons can trace their democratic lineage in an unbroken line to the origin of political parties in this country. It is such democrats as Colonel Watterson who favor the initiative, referendum and recall. Most of those who oppose these reforms are descendants of the ancient enemies of democracy, the old line whigs.

Quite a number of Texas editors and politicians continue to be troubled in spirit because Mr. Bryan persists in exercising his privilege as an American citizen to express his views on public questions. This is the spirit of the inquisition and of the star chamber. Every citizen is free to accept or reject Mr. Bryan's views, so where is the harm? Mr. Bryan does not try to coerce anybody; he appeals to the reason and judgment of his hearers and readers. If freedom of speech and of the press be denied to Mr. Bryan, so may it be to any American citizen. Those who would silence him are not friends of liberty.

"Snap Shots on Prohibition" in the Atlanta Georgian says: "The fact that the liquor business keeps on fighting the law is proof enough in itself that

the traffic is bad and not good." Such reckless statements as this do the prohibition movement much harm. The church itself fought the law for centuries, until it gained religious freedom. The prohibitionists are fighting the law now in wet territory. The Eagle has no brief to defend the liquor business, but it hates to see unreasonable statements offered as arguments.

The Eagle predicted that George Marcellus Bailey would gush over the eleven days of rainy weather at Houston. Well, here it is: "But Venice in its palmiest days could have been no more picturesque than Houston with its beautiful water soaked avenues and boulevards. Come to Houston." When George goes to Tartarus he will sniff the sulphur laden vapor and swear it is more fragrant than the breezes of Araby the Blest.

Senator Mayfield has started an agitation the object of which is to discontinue the penitentiaries at Rusk and Huntsville and concentrate all the state's penal institutions at Austin. In favor of the change, it is pointed out that Huntsville and Rusk are out of the way places without any local advantages, causing the maintaining of the prisons there to be both inconvenient and costly.

National Committeeman R. M. Johnston, editor of the Houston Post, has denied that he pledged the convention vote of Texas to Governor Harmon, but some partisan newspapers keep on publishing it. The Eagle doesn't like Colonel Johnston's politics, but it believes in playing the game according to the rules.

The democratic voters of Texas, except those who have come of age since 1904, remember that the same crowd now shouting that Harmon is the only democrat who can be elected said the same about Parker in that campaign. They also remember that Parker got the smallest percentage of the vote of any democratic presidential candidate in two-thirds of a century.

During his transcontinental flight which occupied nearly three months, Cal P. Rodgers was in the air only three days, ten hours and fourteen minutes. Most of the time spent on the ground was taken up with repairing his machine. The aeroplane will have to be improved a great deal yet before it will be anything but a toy.

The declaration for La Follette of Roosevelt's confidential friend, Clifford Pinchot, indicates that the colonel will not be a candidate for "a second elective term." It is also a symptom that

## The First National Bank

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The Eagle sincerely hopes there will be another rainy spell early in February—for reasons too obvious to mention.

### COUNTY CONVICTS MUTINIED

Overpowered Superintendent W. P. McMinn and Made Their Escape.

The county convicts of Brazos county, encamped several miles from Bryan on one of the county roads, mutinied yesterday afternoon, wounded and overpowered Superintendent W. P. McMinn and made their escape. There were nine men in the camp and six participated in the mutiny and made their escape, while the other three remained.

It seems that the men had been unlocked from the guard chain for the evening meal, and while thus unhampered, and the extra guard being absent, chose this time for the attack and fight for freedom. The onslaught was sudden and Mr. McMinn was felled to the ground with some heavy instrument, and while helpless the convicts secured one shotgun and two pistols and made their escape. One shot was fired at Superintendent McMinn and five at the negro cook, but fortunately all of them went wild.

As soon as Mr. McMinn had sufficiently recovered he came to town and reported the matter to Sheriff Conlee and the other officers, and everything possible is being done to effect their recapture.

St. Andrew's Guild will have a sale of Christmas articles Tuesday, December 19, at the Smith Drug Company, from 9:30 a. m. until 4 p. m.

For Sale—Six acres land adjoining Hill Crest on car line. Apply to John R. Suber.

## THE HOME Of Quality Groceries

### A MERRY CHRISTMAS To All!

IF WE ARE to have the pleasure of assisting you In getting up that Christmas Spread. You would be justified in inviting Santa Claus himself! He is a Great Champion of quality.

Try These—They'll Please

Fruit Cakes.	Fresh Fruits
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## COOPER & COLE.

**M. F. Dansby** Has good  
Brazos Bottom

## Ear Corn for Sale

90 cents

Stored in G. S. Parkers seed house.

# SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO BRYAN!

On a certain day [the exact date will be announced soon] Santa Claus is coming to Bryan. He will make his headquarters here for a time and will welcome all the Children who come to visit. All the little Boys and Girls may tell Santa himself just what they want for Christmas. WATCH FOR THE DATE OF HIS COMING AND WHERE TO MEET HIM.

## ...Walker's 5 and 10 Cent Store...